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of

THE CLEMSON AGRI. COLLEGE

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Laws of Congress  
Vol 2- 1902-1906

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1890-1901



*First Annual Report*

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REPORT  
OF THE  
TRUSTEES

OF THE  
CLEMSON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

FOR THE  
FISCAL YEAR ENDING OCTOBER 31, 1890.

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# REPORT.

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## STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA,

OFFICE BOARD TRUSTEES CLEMSON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

*To the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina:*

In compliance with the Act of the General Assembly, approved December 23d, 1889, the Board of Trustees of the Clemson Agricultural College have the honor to submit to your honorable bodies a Report of their various proceedings, together with a statement of P. H. E. Sloan, Secretary and Treasurer, of all moneys received and disbursed by the Board from their organization to the 31st of October, 1890, the end of the fiscal year.

Section 6 of the Act, approved as aforesaid, establishing the Clemson College, provides that the said Act shall not take effect until the executor of the will of Thos. G. Clemson shall have executed a deed of conveyance of the property so devised to the State of South Carolina, but that of the moneys appropriated by said Act the sum of \$3,000, upon the approval of the said Act, could be drawn by the Trustees and expended in securing plans and specifications and estimates of suitable buildings for the College.

The Trustees met in Columbia on the 20th day of January, 1890, and organized by electing R. W. Simpson President of the Board and J. E. Wannamaker Secretary and Treasurer, and upon the resignation of the latter P. H. E. Sloan was elected Secretary and Treasurer, and R. W. Simpson, D. K. Norris, Jas. L. Orr, Alan Johnstone and R. E. Bowen were elected members of the Executive Committee.

The first and most important matter to be decided was the number, character and extent of the buildings that would be necessary to meet the requirements of an Agricultural and Mechanical College. After the return of a sub-committee sent to inspect the buildings of other institutions of like character in other States, it was decided by the Board to erect a main college building three stories high and with suitable rooms for all purposes connected with the College, and with a chapel attached; three dormitories two stories high, with a sufficient number of rooms in each to accommodate one hundred students, or three hundred in all; one mess hall, with pantry and



kitchen attached ; one chemical laboratory two stories high ; one experiment station ; one mechanical hall two stories high ; ten professors' houses ; one hospital ; creamery, barns, cow houses and stables.

After advertising and correspondence with architects, Messrs. Bruce and Morgan, of Atlanta, Georgia, were employed, and were directed to immediately prepare the plans and specifications of the buildings agreed upon in accordance with the directions furnished them.

After a personal inspection of the Fort Hill tract of land by the Board, it was ascertained and agreed that the cost of the buildings could be materially lessened by utilizing the material found upon the place. No actual work, however, could be done until the conditions required by the Act had been complied with, except to secure the plans and specifications, as before stated. On the — day of May, 1890, the Supreme Court of the United States filed a decree in the case of Gideon Lee, guardian, *vs.* R. W. Simpson in favor of the defendant and dissolved the injunction previously granted restraining the executor from transferring the property. Immediately thereafter the executor executed and delivered to the State of South Carolina a deed of conveyance to the Fort Hill tract of land containing eight hundred and fourteen acres.

On the 20th day of the same month the Board of Trustees met at Pendleton and began the actual work preparatory to the erection of the buildings. Contracts in writing were made with the Messrs. Pool, of Newberry, to make on the place 3,000,000 brick and to deliver them at the sites of the buildings—1,000,000 to be delivered by the first of January, 1891 ; and with Messrs. Mauldin and Glospie, of Pickens, to saw all stock trees on the place into such bills of lumber as should be furnished them, and to deliver the same where needed. Stone masons were employed and quarrying appliances secured and the quarrying of rock was begun.

But it would be difficult to set out in this report the details of all the preliminary work necessary to be done before even commencing the actual work. A stockade had to be built for the convicts before we could secure their labor ; tools, implements, bedding and provisions had to be gathered together for them ; carpenters and masons had to be hired, mules and wagons purchased, houses erected for the workmen, tools, furnaces and other appliances for work in the quarries purchased, and necessary roads constructed.

All this consumed much time, but every energy was exerted to secure material and begin the erection of the buildings as early in the Fall as possible.



At this meeting the Board realized the necessity of having some competent person, upon whom the authority of the Board could be conferred, to reside at Fort Hill, to overlook and plan the work ; to study and execute the details of the plans agreed upon by the Board ; to arrange and locate the buildings ; to assist in organizing the College departments ; to establish and manage the Experiment Station ; to equip the Laboratory, and to assist in the selection of suitable and competent persons as Professors for the College. It was agreed, therefore, to elect the President of the College and entrust him with these duties, he being the most suitable person that could be selected for that purpose.

The Board realized the importance of electing the right man to this office, for upon him would depend in a large measure the success of the institution. They therefore examined carefully and considered well the qualifications of all available persons. The choice at length rested between Gen. S. D. Lee, President of the Mississippi Agricultural College, and Professor H. A. Strode, then Professor of Mathematics and Chemistry in the University of Mississippi. The position was first tendered to General Lee, and upon his declining to accept the Board unanimously elected Professor Strode President of the College and Director of the Experiment Station.

Prof. Strode was highly recommended by many of the most prominent educators in the South as one well fitted and competent to manage and conduct an institution such as we proposed to make Clemson College, and so far the Board finds him thoroughly in sympathy with their purposes, and eminently competent to organize the College and manage it in all its details.

To carry out the purposes of the Board, it was determined to complete by the end of this year at least two Professors' houses, the chemical laboratory, the experiment station and the stables and cow houses. All of these buildings except the two last named were to be built of brick, and the Board undertook to have them erected under their own supervision and with the labor under their control. But owing to the delay in obtaining brick from the contractors, and the short time that would be left between the time of obtaining brick and the end of the brick building period of the year, it was deemed advisable to have the laboratory built by contract, and the contract was let to W. B. Beacham, of Anderson. The cost of the building was estimated by the architect at \$10,000. It is fifty feet wide by eighty feet long, two stories high, and a basement nine feet high under half of the building, and is to be supplied with all the modern improvements and finished in the most approved style.



It was the middle of September when the contractors delivered the first load of brick, and they were rejected as not being of the quality required by the contract; and it was further ascertained upon examination that all the brick then ready to be delivered, amounting to several hundred thousand, were of the same character. This was a great disappointment as well as a great drawback to the progress of the work. The brick-making season of the year was nearly at an end, and for a while it looked very much like the completion of the College would be postponed a year longer than had been expected.

The Board was called together to consider the situation, and, finding that the Messrs. Pool were unable to carry out their contract, they first decided to purchase at once the brick they had agreed to furnish for the building of the Laboratory, but after conference with the Messrs. Pool they bought out their brick-making plant, and ordered every convict and available workman on the place to be put to work making brick, both by machinery and by hand. By this arrangement we now have on hand about 800,000 brick, sufficient to erect the houses agreed upon, and with enough left to begin building again in the Spring, and unless there should be some unexpected or unavoidable hindrance the Laboratory, two Professors' houses, the Experiment Station, and the stables and cow houses will be completed early in the next year.

The Board at its last meeting elected Professor J. F. Duggar, a graduate of the Mississippi Agricultural College, Assistant Director of the Experiment Station, and ordered the Station to be put in immediate operation. This direction of the Board has been carried into effect, and the Station is being supported by that part of the fund, commonly known as the Hatch fund, turned over to our Secretary and Treasurer by the Secretary and Treasurer of the South Carolina University, being about two-thirds of one-quarter, or the sum of \$2,280.03.

Of the appropriation of ~~\$4,300~~ <sup>43000</sup> made at the last session of the General Assembly, the Board, up to November 1st, 1890, had expended \$17,195.31, leaving a balance on hand of \$25,813.86. A large part of the amount expended has been paid for the support of the convicts, hire of teamsters and laborers, feeding mules, freights and salaries. Notwithstanding this fact, it is gratifying to be able to state that the value of the work done on the buildings in course of erection, and the value of the material on hand, together with such other work done as is of a permanent nature, exceeds the total amount so far expended. This result is obtained by the utilization of the crude material found on the place and the convict labor furnished by the State.



The actual amount paid for stockade.....	\$ 700
Brick-making plant and tools.....	2,909
Lumber on hand.....	1,543
16 mules, 8 wagons and harness.....	3,000
900,000 brick.....	5,400
Office furniture.....	40
Stables, commissary and laborers' houses.....	400
Amount paid on buildings in course of erection.....	3,000
Stone quarried ready for use.....	400
Grading roads and improving property.....	200
Current.....	30
Plans and specifications accepted.....	460
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	\$18,082

But a full itemized statement of the disbursements can be had by referring to the Treasurer's Report.

It has been claimed by the friends of the College that the several funds properly applicable to, and intended for the benefit and promotion of agriculture were sufficient to pay the cost of erecting all the buildings necessary for an Agricultural and Mechanical College. This claim can be substantiated, and the buildings can be erected with these funds, and without any direct taxation, by extending the time for completing the buildings for two or three years.

The buildings are estimated to cost about.....	\$150,000
There has been already appropriated.....	\$43,000
The interest of the Land Scrip Fund for 1891....	6,500
The interest of the Land Scrip Fund for 1892....	6,500
The tag tax for the year 1891.....	42,000
The tag tax for the year 1892.....	42,000
	<hr/>
	140,000
	<hr/>
	\$10,000

Thus we see that only \$10,000 remain to be raised by taxation, and this amount would be lessened by the interest derived from the Clemson Bequest.

And then when the buildings are completed these same funds, together with the two appropriations by the Federal Government, will be amply sufficient to maintain all the departments of the College without calling on the State for an additional dollar.

But this policy of continuing the erection of the buildings through the year 1892 will postpone the opening of the institution to stu-



dents until the Fall of 1893, which is unnecessary, and at the same time will entail upon the Board grave difficulties in executing the trust imposed upon them, by reason of the fact that the tag tax comes in in small amounts and no advantageous contracts can be made without the money is in hand. For these and other like reasons we respectfully, and yet urgently, request your honorable bodies to make a sufficient appropriation at this session of the General Assembly to cover the cost of constructing and completing all the buildings. The amount needed over and above the appropriation already made will be \$107,000. By donating for our purposes the Land Scrip fund and the tag tax and the interest on the Clemson Bequest this amount can be considerably reduced, and, in fact, would leave the amount of about \$60,000 only to be appropriated directly from the Treasury of the State. This is a small amount, indeed, for the State to expend to secure so valuable and extensive institution of learning.

The fund commonly known as the Hatch Fund, amounting to \$15,000 per annum, appropriated by Congress for the support of an Experiment Station, and the appropriation made by Congress at its last session of \$15,000 for the first year, and increasing one thousand dollars each year until the amount reaches \$25,000 per annum, to further aid Agricultural Colleges, cannot be used in erecting or repairing buildings, and are to be used only in paying salaries and in the purchase of such appliances as will be needed in equipping the laboratory, the experiment station and the agricultural and mechanical departments of the College. Hence, by a judicious use of these funds the Board expect to have all of the departments of the College fully equipped without calling upon the State for any assistance whatever, and ready for operation whenever the doors of the College are thrown open to students.

The fifty convicts heretofore furnished have saved to the Board the expenditure of a large amount of money, but they are not sufficient to do all the work required, without the hire of much additional labor.

We therefore recommend that provision be made at the present session of the Legislature, by which the Board of Trustees may be furnished with one hundred additional convicts, to be delivered whenever called for; and that the Superintendent of the Penitentiary be directed in selecting the convicts to be so furnished to select able-bodied and such as are skilled, or have some skill, as carpenters, brick-masons and blacksmiths.

In his will, Thomas G. Clemson bequeathed to his granddaughter, Floride Isabella Lee, his family pictures, silverware and the sum of



fifteen thousand dollars ; but he provided that if his said granddaughter, or her guardian, should contest his will, or in any manner should attempt to defeat his purposes, therein expressed, to establish an Agricultural College, that then and in that event she should receive no part of his estate whatever, and that the items and money therein bequeathed to her should be paid by his executor to the State of South Carolina. We are informed that the executor cannot now safely pay this legacy to Miss Lee, having been advised by his attorneys that if the action brought against him by Gideon Lee, guardian of Isabella Lee, to recover the Fort Hill place, had been successful, the purposes of the will would have been entirely defeated, hence Miss Lee is not now entitled to any part of her grandfather's estate.

The Board of Trustees hope that they express the wishes of all the people of the State, when they say that they desire Miss Lee to have everything bequeathed to her by her grandfather's will, whether she is legally entitled to it or not. They therefore unanimously recommend that the State waive all its right and title to this legacy, and that the executor of the will, by suitable legislation, be authorized and directed to pay to Miss Isabella Lee the legacy so bequeathed to her, in accordance with the terms of the will.

The Board would respectfully call your attention to one other matter :

By reason of this law suit the executor did not feel authorized to mark the grave of Mr. Clemson with a tombstone or monument, as is usually done in such cases. We therefore recommend that at least five hundred dollars be appropriated out of the Clemson Bequest to be expended by the Board of Trustees in marking the grave of the man who gave so generously to promote the welfare and the happiness of the people of this State. And that from the same fund they be authorized to expend the sum of three hundred dollars to have a portrait painted of the Hon. Thomas G. Clemson.

The Board is pained to report that since the last session of the General Assembly Col. B. W. Edwards, one of the Trustees elected by the Legislature, has departed this life, which leaves a vacancy on the Board. On account of the large amount of work now on its hands we respectfully suggest that a successor to Col. Edwards be elected at as early a day as practicable.

In conclusion : Now that the Clemson Agricultural and Mechanical College is apparently an established fact, and it has been demonstrated that it can be established and maintained at a very little, if any, cost to the State, we earnestly request all the friends of education and those who desire the elevation and prosperity of all the people of the State to unite in bestowing upon the Clemson College that



encouragement and generous aid necessary to make it a success and an honor to the State. The friends of agricultural and mechanical education in South Carolina do not consider this the only kind of education desirable for all persons, nor do they seek to pull down or destroy the efficiency of any of the other educational institutions of the State. They desire rather to see them all prosper alike, and labor harmoniously together in furnishing, if possible, to every youth in South Carolina such an education, either technological or literary, as will best advance the interest of the individual and promote the welfare and prosperity of the State.

R. W. SIMPSON,

President Board of Trustees Clemson Agricultural College.

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REPORT OF J. E. WANNAMAKER, SECRETARY AND TREASURER  
BOARD TRUSTEES CLEMSON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

1890.	Received from State Treasurer.....	\$3,000
	Paid R. W. Simpson, expense trip to Mississippi .....	\$ 48 86
	Paid R. E. Bowen, expense trip to Mississippi. ....	38 75
	Exchange on above two checks.....	40
	Paid Walker Evans & Cogswell for books and seal .....	17 60
	Paid express on books and seal.....	35
	Balance paid Dr. P. H. E. Sloan.....	2,891 04
	Exchange on N. Y.....	3 00
		<hr/>
		\$3,000

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PENDLETON, S. C., November 1, 1890.

P. H. E. SLOAN *Treasurer*, IN ACCOUNT WITH CLEMSON A. AND M. COLLEGE.

1890.		
April 30.	To cash from J. E. Wannamaker...	\$ 2,891 04
June 11.	To cash from State Treasurer.....	5,000 00
Sept. 8.	To cash from State Treasurer.....	5,000 00
Oct. 13.	To cash from State Treasurer.....	5,000 00
Oct. 29.	To cash from State Treasurer.....	10,000 00
Oct. 29.	To cash from State Treasurer, ....	15,000 00
June 7.	To overpaid transportation convicts,	4 20
June 14.	To error in freight bill.....	4 97
		<hr/>
		\$42,900 21



## CONTRA.

Oct. 31.	By expenditures on account convicts	\$	736	42	
	By expenditures on stockade.....		187	12	
	By expenditures on commissary.....		866	13	
	By expenditures on farm.....		97	07	
	By expenditures on machinery and tools.....		2,909	50	
	By expenditures on lumber.....		1,469	27	
	By expenditures on labor.....		1,773	59	
	By expenditures on teams and teamsters.....		3,569	57	
	By expenditures on expenses of Trustees.....		661	63	
	By expenditures on brick.....		945	05	
	By expenditures on homestead.....		131	33	
	By expenditures on office and incidentals.....		139	98	
	By expenditures on salaries.....		1,364	15	
	By expenditures on freight.....		199	13	
	By expenditures on buildings.....		2,036	41	
	Balance.....		25,813	86	
					\$42,900 21
	To balance.....		\$25,813	86	